



The operating room of New York's St. Vincent Hospital is a haven for many tragic victims. Here Sister Ann Veronica, Maryknoll nun-doctor and former interne at Rochester's St. Mary's Hospital, uses her medical skill to help one of New York's unfortunates. (NC-Look Magazine Photo).

**'Lower West Side'**

**Nun-Doctor Who Rides Ambulance Trained In Rochester**

By SISTER MARIA DEL REY  
(N.C.W.C. News)

New York — When, around 2 a.m., or so, Sister Ann Veronica steps aboard an ambulance to go screaming through New York's streets to where police stand guard over some unfortunate who needs a doctor—she steps one pace closer to her goal, tending the sick in the world's mission fields.

Sister Ann Veronica, Maryknoll nun-doctor featured in this story and the Feb. 18 issue of Look magazine, is a familiar figure to many in Rochester where she finished her medical internship last June at St. Mary's Hospital.

She is a Maryknoll Sister, serving as resident surgeon at St. Vincent's Hospital in New York's lower west side and often on emergency night duty. St. Vincent's, conducted by the Charity Sisters of Mt. St. Vincent, is one of the largest hospitals in the city. It stands as a bulwark of charity and mercy in a tragic section of the city.

Sister Ann Veronica averages six trips a night to care for men, women or children whose life, for some reason or other, has flickered low in the night hours.

A few weeks ago, a Look magazine photographer rode the ambulance with Sister Ann Veronica. The result was a picture story in the February 18 issue of the magazine.

Police called her to treat "an unconscious unidentified male" found on a flophouse stairway; an old Italian woman who had a heart attack in her little apartment; a hysterical woman found running wildly through the halls of her tenement; a girl, 22 years old, whose lover had slashed her face; a little girl who was found to have nothing more terrifying than measles.

"Sister Ann Veronica's emergency calls take her to dimly lighted tenements, stately old brownstones and 50-cent-a-night flophouses," writes Roland Berg, medical editor of Look.

"Her patients range from colicky babies to derelict drunks and beaten girls. To all, she brings the comforting presence of religion and the healing skill of the physician."

But Sister Ann Veronica didn't "just happen." She is the result of long years of careful training, both spiritual and professional.

When Veronica Mary Klus left Chicago in 1946 to enter Maryknoll at 19, she was like many another American Catholic girl, a young woman of high ideals. She was graduated from St. Thomas the Apostle High School in Chicago and was a member of the honor society there. She was vice-prefect of the parish sodality.

Her pastor, Father C. A. Murphy, knew her well. In fact, she was his secretary and part time housekeeper to earn a little extra money. Both her parents had died when she was young and the family of seven children was brought up by the oldest sister, now a Dominican Sister of the Sinsinawa, Wis., community.

Ambitions? Well, Veronica Klus thought she would like to be a nun—or a doctor. In the end, she decided to forego the medical profession so as to serve God with her whole heart. She said nothing about her love for medicine. She would take what God gave her. In September, 1946, she donned the black dress of a Maryknoll postulant.



Sister Ann Veronica, M.D. never knows what is coming next — performing surgery in a dark alley or answering calls in tenements. The Maryknoll nun-doctor, who interned last year at St. Mary's Hospital in Rochester, is now resident physician at New York's St. Vincent Hospital where she is assigned to ambulance duty. Here she gives aid to a stricken man in a lower west side flophouse. (NC-Look Magazine Photo).

Two and a half years later, she was a full-fledged Maryknoll Sister. An excellent stenographer, she spent a year and a half in office work at the motherhouse. Then, she started college work, earned a B.S. degree from Manhattanville College in 1952 and went on to Marquette University for medical studies.

An M.D. in 1956, Sister Ann Veronica began internship at St. Mary's Hospital in Rochester, N. Y. It was then decided by her superiors that Sister Ann Veronica should specialize in surgery.

She came to St. Vincent's in New York as resident surgeon, slated to spend several years here before she goes to the missions to serve the poor.

For all these years of training, Sister Ann Veronica has been a missionary. In spite of preoccupation with the ills of the body, she knows that ills of the soul are more tragic.

The girl, beaten by her lover.

**33 Parishes Sign Families For 'Courier'**

Early reports in the Catholic Courier Journal's current circulation campaign indicate a three percent increase in subscriptions over last year's record total of 55,600.

Thirty-two parishes have already reported they will continue the "total coverage" plan of sending the Courier Journal to every family in their parishes.

Many of the parishes reporting this week report increased numbers in subscription totals as a result of new families being enrolled as parishioners during the past year.

Parishes renewing the "total coverage" plan and reporting increased totals this year are headed this week by St. Gregory's, Marlon, Rev. James C. Lane, pastor, reports a total of 110 subscriptions, an increase of 42 over last year's total.

Also, St. Patrick's, Elmira, Monsignor William J. Brien, pastor, 1,091 (increase, 25); St. Patrick's, Macedon, Rev. Bernard C. Hanna, pastor, 472 (increase, 17); and St. Rose, Lima, Rt. Rev. Msgr. John Ball, 211 (increase, 11).

Also renewing "total coverage" for 1958 are: Immaculate Conception, Rochester, Monsignor John S. Randall, pastor, 912; St. Jerome's, East Rochester, Rev. Roy E. Murphy, pastor, 496; St. Mary's, Danville, Rev. Edward M. Scheid, pastor, 400; St. Joseph's Weedsport, Rev. Leo A. Jones, pastor, 149.

St. Gabriel's, Hammondsport, 83, and St. Patrick's, Prattburgh, 49, Rev. Earl Tobin, pastor; Catholic Chapel, Dryden, Rev. Thomas K. Cleary, administrator, 120; Church of the Epiphany, Solus, 66, and St. Rose of Lima, Solus Point, 24, Rev. William Lammers, pastor; and St. Francis Solanus, Interlaken, Very Rev. Gereon Lindsay, OFM, Cap. administrator, 48.

These reports show a total of 11,922 subscriptions. Elmer Grapenstetter, circulation manager, states that the parishes that have reported thus far had a total of 11,634 in 1957.

The Courier Journal circulation drive extends through the month of February. Pastors are currently tabulating new subscriptions submitted to them by the people of their parishes.

**Catholics Dispensed On February 22**

Catholics of the Rochester Diocese are dispensed from Lenten fast and abstinence laws Saturday, February 22, Washington's birthday.

Bishop Kearney granted the dispensation and urged the faithful to perform some act of devotion, such as attending Holy Mass, or doing an act of charity especially in favor of the poor.

**U.S. Girl Skier Visits Pope Pius**

Laconia, N. H. — (NC) — Penny Pitou, 19-year-old Laconia girl who participated in the world ski championship events at Bad Gastein, Austria, was one of a group who had an audience with Pope Pius XII during a visit to Rome.

**PARABLES FOR TODAY**

By MONSIGNOR PATRICK J. FLYNN

**I — The Man Who Came Back**

We all admire the man or woman who makes a comeback. We cheer the underdog who fights his way back from the brink of defeat to win. It has been pointed out rather humorously that we are all thrilled when we see "the corpse get up off the floor and bury the undertaker."

The best dramas in our daily newspapers are the stories of those who make successful comebacks after suffering tragedy. Those who pick themselves out of the ashes of failure and defeat are our most popular heroes and heroines.

There is inspiration for all of us of lesser stamina in those who defy the very human temptation to discouragement and despair in the face of ill fortune.

Everybody sees a spark of hope for himself in those who rally over financial reverses, who overcome physical handicaps, who measure up to the trial of personal tragedy.

The man who comes back has an appeal for all of us. He gives us encouragement in our darkest moments. We like



MONSIGNOR FRANCIS LUDDY

**Monsignor Luddy Requiem Today**

Solemn Funeral Mass will be offered this morning at 10:30 a.m. at Our Lady of Lourdes Church for the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Francis W. Luddy, pastor of the Brighton parish since 1937, and formerly rector of St. Andrew's Seminary.

His Excellency, Bishop Kearney will celebrate the Mass and Monsignor Maynard A. Connell, a long time friend, will preach the eulogy.

Monsignor Luddy, well known Rochester clergyman, died late Tuesday afternoon, Feb. 18, 1958, after a long illness.

The sixty-seven year old prelate, forty years a Catholic priest, had a career of distinguished service in the Rochester Diocese. His priestly life included roles as seminary educator and parish administrator.

His death came one year and one week after he was named to the rank of domestic prelate by Pope Pius XII.

Monsignor Luddy received the papal honor last year on the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes and died this week on the feast of St. Bernadette, the peasant

girl to whom the Blessed Virgin appeared at Lourdes in France 100 years ago.

IN TWO DECADES at Brighton's Our Lady of Lourdes Church, he conducted three successful fund drives to build a rectory, school, and convent.

He opened the school in 1948, and in 1953 enlarged its facilities to care for a mounting enrollment.

The rectory, erected in 1950, has served as a model for rectories built subsequently in many parishes throughout the Diocese.

Just completed this past year is the convent for the Sisters of St. Joseph who staff the parish school.

Monsignor Luddy also supervised redecoration of the church edifice when the parish marked its twenty fifth anniversary in 1953.

PRIOR TO HIS appointment in 1937 as pastor of the Brighton parish, Monsignor Luddy served eighteen years as professor and

(Continued on page 6)

**Children Target Of Mail Order Smut Business**

By RUSSELL SHAW

Washington, D.C.—(NC)—Like a giant Octopus stretching out its deadly arms, a multi-million dollar traffic in mail order pornography is now feeding its bloated body on the innocence of American youth.

This is revealed in the 50,000 letters of protest and complaint received annually by the U.S. Post Office Department. The direct mail order trade in pornography, the letters show, is centering more and more on the nation's children.

Mail order pornography is relatively new. Postal officials say it has become big business only in the past 10 or 12 years. While its true proportions are guesswork for the most part, available facts indicate that it is very big business indeed.

A U.S. Senate committee investigating juvenile delinquency estimated that dealers in obscene material do an annual gross mail business of between 300 and 350 million dollars.

Postal officials say these promoters distribute as many as 100,000 of their circulars daily.

One New York dealer, at the time of his conviction on obscenity charges, carried on a business worth \$270,000 annually.

Postal meters showed the same dealer sent out \$3,000 worth of mail every month.

The mail order obscenity racket is centered in two cities, New York and Los Angeles. The bulk of the business is carried on by 12 or 15 individuals who have been in the trade for years. They operate through various fronts, designed to prevent their identification.

Using different names, they rent post office boxes as mailing addresses. Postal officials say one promoter may employ as many as 200 to 300 different names in the course of his operations. One dealer operated from 50 post office boxes at the same time.

The dealers' catch-all methods of seeking customers explain why much of their pornography is sent to children in their teens, or younger.

THE LETTERS of complaint postal officials receive from par-

(Continued on Page 2)

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(Continued on Page 2)

**Mother Seton's Story**

The Courier-Journal, in its second article, continues the Mother Seton Story, as told by Edward Steimer, staff writer for the Pittsburgh Catholic. Episcopalian-born Elizabeth Bayley Seton may be the first native-born American citizen raised to sainthood in the Catholic Church. Following her role as wife, mother (of five children), and widow, this onetime belle of New York society embraced the Catholic Faith and founded the American Sisters of Charity.

By EDWARD STEIMER

William Magee Seton was 26 years old when he married Elizabeth Bayley, six years younger, in 1794. He was the eldest of five children born to William Seton and Rebecca Curzon, a birth which took place at sea on the sailing-ship "Edward" which was bringing his parents home to New York from a trip to England.

His family were descendants of the Lords Seton (Seaton) of Scotland who were famed in Scottish legend and history. The elder William had come to America as a young man and became a businessman in New York.

handing much of the city's overseas shipping trade and becoming a prominent banker in a day which saw the rise of such financiers as John Vanderbilt and Alexander Hamilton.

At Cremona, Italy, he had a...



MOTHER SETON

In the Solemn Hours, flowers are more comforting than words. In the beauty of flowers is confirmation of the faith which sustains all who have suffered loss. Blanchard Flowers, 58 Lake Avenue. —Adv.